Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO
III

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CHAPTER 10

In the morning : The Butler, Reflective

I DESPISED MY RED HAIR, WHICH WAS JUST LIKE MY FATHER'S.
AND I LOATHED THE COLOUR RED.
THE COLOUR OF LYCORIS, A COLOUR THAT BLAZES THE EARTH.
RED REALLY SUITS YOU.
AN'S RED HAIR IS TRULY BEAUTIFUL.
I BEGAN TO LOVE THE COLOUR RED BECAUSE YOU COMPLIMENTED ME.
BUT... BUT...

BASA (FLAP)
RIGHT, THEN.
PUCHI (SNAP)
BAFU (PUFF)
!?
WHA—!?
PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW YOURSELF TO CATCH A CHILL.
I WILL PREPARE SOME HOT MILK WHEN WE HAVE RETURNED TO THE TOWN HOUSE.
AND I SHALL SWEETEN IT WITH HONEY OR BRANDY OR SOMETHING OF THE SORT.

OHHH?
I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU GO RUNNING HOME JUST LIKE THAT, YOU KNOW!?
GARUN (TUG)
.....
GYA (YIKES)
LITTLE DEATH SCYTHE HERE AND I ARE BOTH FULL OF SOOOO MUCH PENT-UP ENERGY THESE DAYS 'COS OUR QUARRY HAS BEEN MUCH TOO EASY TO...
BA (LEAP)
GYA
...HUNT!

GA (WHIK)
DON (SHOVE)
!!
GYA
GYA
GYA
GYA
I MUCH PREFER DOING THE CHASING MYSELF TO BEING CHASED, SEBASTIAN DARLING!
SO LET'S HAVE OURSELVES A MARVELOUS ROUND OF TAG, SHALL WE!?
D (DASH)
GYA
GYA
GYA
GYA

I HAVE ASKED YOU BEFORE...
...TO REFRAIN FROM UTTERING SUCH VILE...
...DRIVEL!
GYA (VNEE)
GYA
GYAN (SWING)
GYARARARA
GA (GRAB)
G'WARARA (VWEEE)
..I'M SURE!
YOU'LL GET HOOKED ON MY LITTLE ONE ONCE YOU'VE HAD A TASTE...
DON'T BE LIKE THAT!
TA (TMP)

GYA
GYA
GYA
GYA
YOU DON'T LOOK IT, BUT YOU'RE PRETTY POWERFUL, SEBASTIAN DARLING! ♡
OOH!
THAT WARMS MY COCKLES TOO, IT DOES!
HOW-EVER ...
...THE REAL SHOW BEGINS NOW!
GYAHAHAHA
THE DEATH SCYTHE ...
JAAAAAA (SLICE)
...
...CAN CUT THROUGH A GAS LAMP...
...LIKE A TWIG!
ZUPAN (SHNK)

BITA (FREEZE)
ZAA (WOOSH)
WHA...
FROM THIS DAY FORTH...
...YOU ARE MY FAITHFUL DOG.

HA (GASP)
SHOULD I GET THE RING OUT?
YES!!
THIS...
ACQUIRE THIS COMPANY AS WELL.
...IS...
COME TO MY SIDE!!
ZAA (WOOSH)
MY NAME IS
ARE YOU READY FOR THA

—HOW WAS IT FOR YOU, HM?
THAT JUST NOW WAS A LITTLE TALENT WE REAPERS HAVE...
THE "CINEMATIC RECORD."
THE PAIN YOU FELT MUST'VE BEEN RATHER DRAMATIC, NO?
GRIM REAPERS RECEIVE A LIST OF THOSE WHO ARE SCHEDULED TO DIE AND JUDGE THEM BY PLAYING BACK THEIR MEMORIES USING THE "RECORD."
WE LOOK AT WHAT SORT OF HUMANS THEY WERE...
...AND WHAT SORT OF LIVES THEY LIVED.
SHOULD WE ALLOW THEM TO LIVE?
OR SHOULD WE KILL THEM?

PEOPLE SAY A MAGIC LANTERN PASSES BEFORE THEIR EYES WHEN THEY ARE ON THE VERGE OF DEATH...
...BUT THAT'S JUST REAPERS LIKE LIL' OLE ME PLAYING BACK THAT HUMAN'S "MEMORIES."
FOR THOSE WHO RECEIVE THE JUDGMENT...
..."THIS HUMAN SHOULD DIE"...
...WE USE OUR DEATH SCYTHES TO SEVER THEIR MEMORIES AND SOULS FROM THEIR BODIES AND...
...FOR THEM, IT IS "THE END."
I HAD PRESUMED YOU WERE ONLY GUILTY OF POOR TASTE, BUT...
...A PEEPING TOM AS WELL, ARE YOU? TRULY THE LOWEST OF THE LOW.

NON, NON! THAT IS OUR JOB!
BUT ...
YES, ALL RIGHT!
GA (BAM)
...WHEN THEY SEEM TO BE THE BAD-BOY TYPE!!
SFX: GA (WHO) GA GA GA GA
JA (ZAT)
I ADMIT I AM A WEE BIT CURIOUS
...ABOUT WHAT LURKS IN THE PASTS OF FINE MEN LIKE YOURSELF!
ESPECIALLY...

GYARARARA (VWRREE)
MEMO-RIES...
... SOULS ...
...DI-MEN-SIONS ...
ZUZU (SLICE)
THE DEATH SCYTHE CAN SLICE RIGHT THROUGH ...
BASHI (GRAB)
GYA (VWEE)
GYA
TEE-HEE-HEE!
YOU CAN'T PLAY MAKE-BELIEVE WITH YOURS TRULY LIKE YOU DO WITH HUMANS, SEBASTIAN DARLING.
GYA
...AND EVEN...
JUJI (SLICE)
...DEVILS!

WHY?
WHAT IS THE POINT OF ASKING ME NOW?
WHY ...?
...THE "WATCHDOG" AND ITS "PREY."
KO COUGH
WHEN YOU AND I HAVE BECOME...
...THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY OUT!!
SU (SWF)
IF I DON'T HUNT THE WATCHDOG, I WILL BE HUNTED. IN WHICH CASE...

...!
ZA (SLICE)
!
WHY WOULD YOU KILL —!?
YOU ARE A PHYSICIAN.
MADAM.
A BRAT LIKE YOU WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND!!
NOT EVER!!
GA (GRAB)

...HAD NEVER BEEN BORN!!

I WISH YOU...
...THAT SOME-ONE LIKE YOU—!
KA-HAH!
SFX: GI (CHOKE) GI GI

GYA (YWEE)
GISHI (CREAK)
GISHI
...
GYA
GYA

THAT SOME-ONE LIKE YOU...
GIRI (GRIT)

SISTER...
YOUNG MAS-TER!
ZUSHAA (SPLAT)

STOP!!
SEBASTIAN!!
KAN (CLATTER)
カンッ

HAAA...
HAAAAA
DO NOT KILL HER !!
PIT (FREEZE)
ЕЮЧЧ
.....
SE-BASTIAN ...?
TEE-HEE!
WHY, SEBASTIAN DARLING! YOU'VE GOT GUTS! ♡
TO THINK YOU WOULD SACRIFICE AN ARM...
... TO GO RESCUE THAT BRAT.

BUT YOU ARE A WHOLLY DIF-FERENT STORY ...
MEKO (SLASH)
...MADAM!!
BIKU (FLINCH)
KA (CLICK)
YOU JUST GO ON AND KILL THAT BRAT NOW, YOU HEAR!?
HUNH?
NO ...
GOSO (MUMBLE)
I CAN-NOT ...
I CAN-NOT KILL THIS CHILD ...!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT NOW !?
AFTER YOU'VE CHOPPED UP ALL THOSE WOMEN!

IF YOU DON'T KILL HIM, HE'LL KILL YOU INSTEAD!
AND AFTER I'VE GONE TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF ASSISTING YOU!
THIS CHILD IS MY—!
BUT...
HAH
BUT!!
GI
CLENCH

DO (SHINK)
I'M SO DISAP-POINT-ED IN YOU...
...MADAM RED.

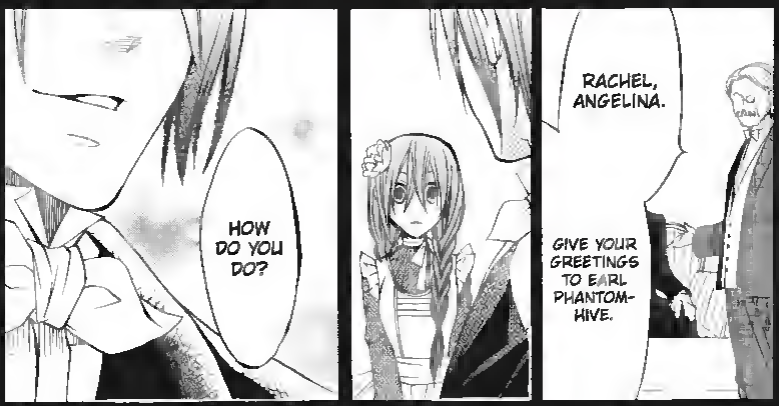
...THIS PLAIN WOMAN YOU'VE BECOME.
I CAN'T SAY I CARE A SHRED FOR...
ZA! (FWOOSH)

.....N.....
AN! ANGELIIINA!
SIS-TER.
IN HERE AGAIN, I SEE.
FATHER IS CALLING FOR YOU.
HE MUSN'T KEEP HIM WAITING.
HE HAS A GUEST HE WISHES TO INTRODUCE US TO.
AND I HAVEN'T PONDERED MY NOSE!!
EEH!?
BUT I'M DRESSED LIKE THIS...

YOU LOOK POSITIVELY CHARMING. YOU'LL BE FINE!
CHOI (TMP)
THERE, ALL DONE!
PATA (TMP)
SASA (RUSTLING)
KYU (TIE)
PATA (TMP)
S—! SIS-TER?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
I WANT TO FIND A CURE FOR YOUR ASTHMA, SISTER.
I'M UN-ATTRACTIVE, AND I FEEL OUT OF PLACE AT BALLS, SO I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO MARRY...
WERE YOU READING AGAIN?
YES. I WANT TO STUDY LOTS AND BECOME A DOCTOR.
...YOU'RE AWFULLY WELL-ENDOO-OOWED!
WEE! HEE! HEE!
I'M SOOO ENVIOUS!
LIKE FINE PEACHES THEY ARE
GYAH!
SISTER!?
GUWASHI (GRAB)
AN IS LOVELY AND SMART. YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR-SELF.
AND LET'S NOT FORGET...

I LOVED AND ENVIED HER SOFT FLAXEN HAIR, WHICH WAS JUST LIKE OUR MOTHER'S.
MY ELDER SISTER'S HEALTH WAS FRAGILE. BUT SHE WAS KIND AND BEAUTIFUL, AND DID NOT PUT ON AIRS, AND I LOVED HER.

I MET "HIM" WHEN I WAS FIFTEEN.



I DESPISED MY RED HAIR,
WHICH WAS JUST LIKE MY FATHER'S.
AND I LOATHED THE COLOUR RED.

WHY DO YOU KEEP YOUR HAIR SO LONG IN FRONT?
I AM NO BEAUTY LIKE MY ELDER SISTER, SO...
AND MY HAIR IS THIS RED AS WELL...
YOU OUGHTN'T BE SO "ASHAMED" OF BEING DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS.
IT GIVES YOU CHARACTER.
AN'S RED HAIR IS TRULY BEAUTIFUL.
THE COLOUR OF LYCORIS, A COLOUR THAT BLAZES THE EARTH.
Red really suits you...
...and you should take more pride in it.
AND THEN, I...
...CUT OFF MY BANGS.

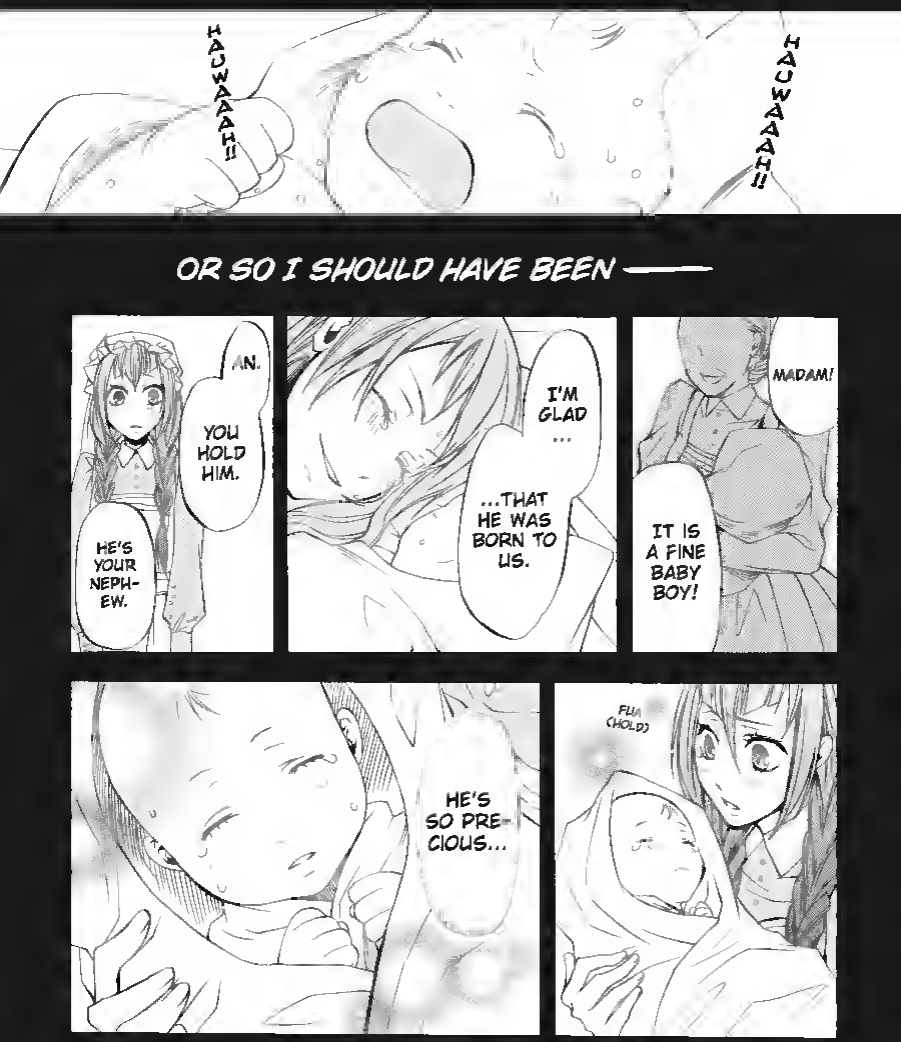
I GREW TO LOVE MY RED HAIR,
WHICH WAS JUST LIKE MY FATHER'S.
AND I GREW TO LOVE THE COLOUR RED.

AND I GREW TO LOVE "HIM."

WHEN "HE" VISITED, I WORE THE RED THAT HE HAD SAID SUITED ME.

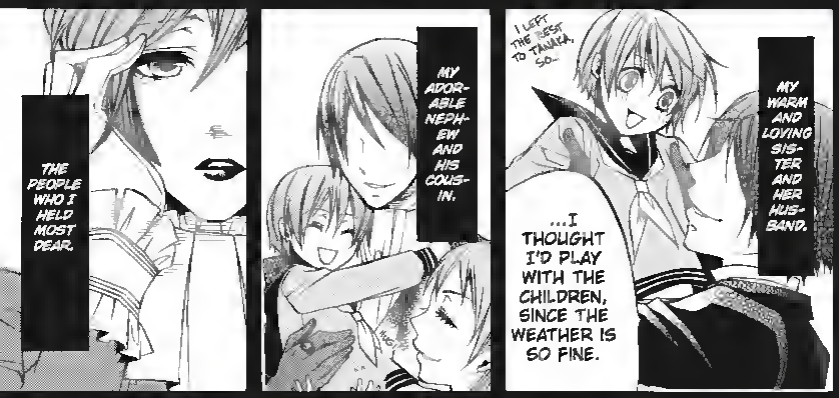
THE "MAN" I LOVED DEARLY WAS GOING TO MARRY THE ELDER SISTER I LOVED DEARLY.

IF THE TWO I CHERISHED SO WERE HAPPY...
...THEN I TOO WAS HAPPY.


HAUWAAAH!!
HAUWAAAH!!
OR SO I SHOULD HAVE BEEN ——
AN.
YOU HOLD HIM.
HE'S YOUR NEPH-EW.
I'M GLAD ...
...THAT HE WAS BORN TO US.
MADAM!
IT IS A FINE BABY BOY!
HE'S SO PRE-CIOUS...
FUA (HOLD)
MY BELOVED AND MY BELOVED BIG SISTER'S ——

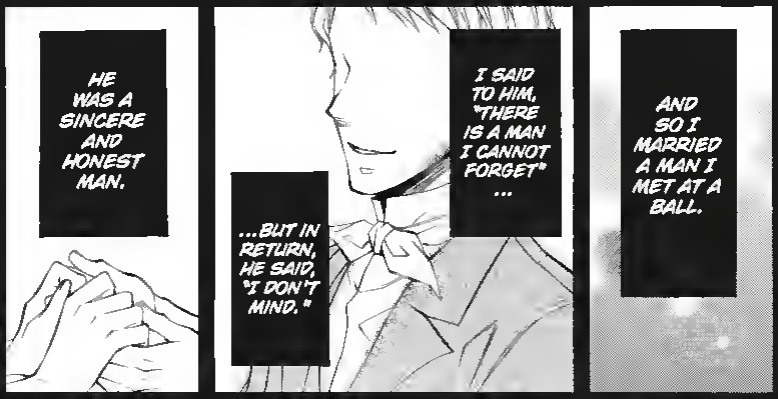
HEH HEH! YOUR NOSE IS JUST LIKE HIS!
OF COURSE!
WHEN HE GROWS UP, PLEASE PLAY WITH HIM A LOT.
ZUKIN (STING)
I BEGAN TO DESPISE... THE COLOUR RED ONCE MORE
AND SOON PEOPLE BEGAN CALLING ME LADY RED.
I FLITTED FROM ONE BALL TO ANOTHER, WEARING GORGEOUS MAKEUP AND BRIGHT RED DRESSES.
AFTER THAT, I STARTED ATTEND-ING THE MANY SOCIAL EVENTS THAT I HAD ONCE HATED.
...AGAINST MY PARENTS' WISHES, OBTAINED MY LICENCE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE.
BUT I ALSO THREW MYSELF INTO MY STUDIES AND...

Auntie An, read me a story!
READ MEEE!
CIEL! LIZZIE!! WHAT HAVE I TOLD YOU ABOUT CALLING ME "AUNT" !?
HEYYYY!!
CALL ME "BIG SISTER"!
I FEEL A LITTLE GUILTY FOR ALWAYS HAVING YOU PLAY WITH THEM.
I DON'T MIND!
I LIKE CHILDREN, AND—
AWOO!
AH!
IT'S FATHER!
Welcome home!

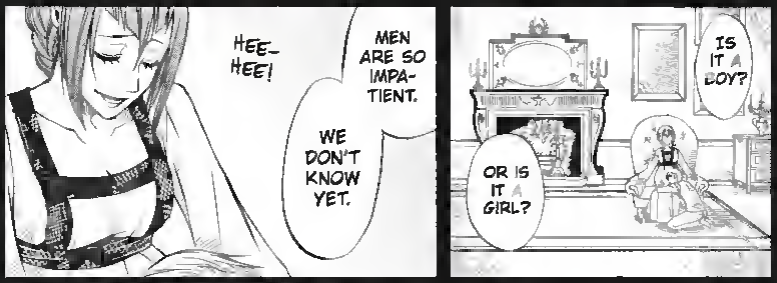

THE PEOPLE WHO I HELD MOST DEAR.
MY ADORABLE NEPHEW AND HIS COUSIN.
I LEFT THE REST TO TANAKA, SO...
...I THOUGHT I'D PLAY WITH THE CHILDREN, SINCE THE WEATHER IS SO FINE.
MY WARM AND LOVING SISTER AND HER HUSBAND.

BUT... SOMEWHERE WITHIN ME, THERE WAS ALWAYS...

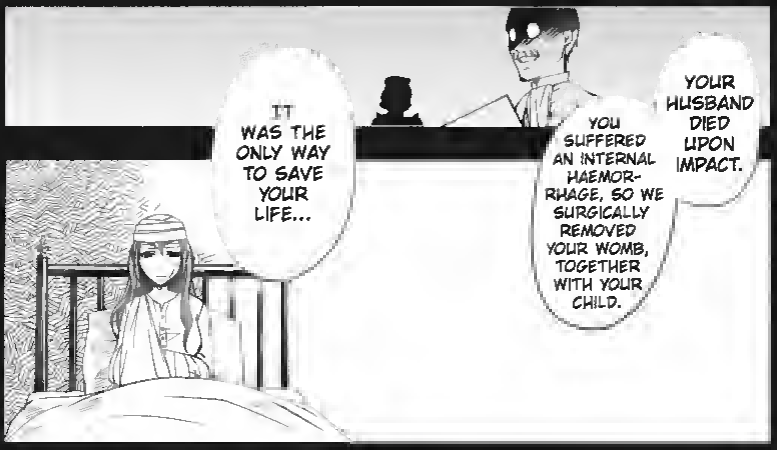
...AN EMOTION OF WHICH I COULD NOT LET GO...


HE WAS A SINCERE AND HONEST MAN.
...BUT IN RETURN, HE SAID, "I DON'T MIND."
I SAID TO HIM, "THERE IS A MAN I CANNOT FORGET" ...
AND SO I MARRIED A MAN I MET AT A BALL.

AND THEN I TOO FOUND MYSELF WITH CHILD.



HE CHERISHED ME —— AND I WAS HAPPY.


IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE YOUR LIFE...
YOU SUFFERED AN INTERNAL HAEMOR-RHAGE, SO WE SURGICALLY REMOVED YOUR WOMB, TOGETHER WITH YOUR CHILD.
YOUR HUSBAND DIED UPON IMPACT.

—— OR SO I SHOULD HAVE BEEN.

AN!
I HEARD FROM THE DOCTOR! THEY SAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO LEAVE THE HOSPITAL SOON?
MY SISTER OFTEN VISITED THE HOSPITAL...
...TO CHEER ME UP.
AN, HOW AWFUL ...
HOW SIMPLY AWFUL ...!
B-BUT...
THE LIQUOR WILL TASTE THAT MUCH BETTER WHEN YOU'RE FIRST!
DON'T WORRY! THE CORRECT WAY TO CELEBRATE A RECOVERY IS TO DRINK AND BE MERRY WITH LOTS OF PEOPLE!!
GAH! HA! HA!
WHY DON'T WE CELEBRATE YOUR RECOVERY TOGETHER THEN TOO !?
I KNOW! MY SON WILL BE CELEBRATING HIS TENTH BIRTHDAY SOON.
WE MUST CELEBRATE, THEN!
THANKS TO YOU.
AND THEN... THAT DAY ARRIVED.
IN TRUTH, I HAD NO DESIRE TO GO.
GARA (RATTLE)
ガラガラガラ...
GARA
GARA
HAAH...
IN THE END, I COULD NOT REFUSE...

SFX: GARA (RATTLE) GARA GARA
!?
KIKIK (CREAK)
GATAN (CLANK)
...I...
...FOR I...
M-MADAM.
TH-THERE ...!!
WHY THE SUDDEN STOP?
THE COLOUR...THAT DYED THAT GREY DECEMBER SKY...
...WAS THAT MOST HATEFUL....

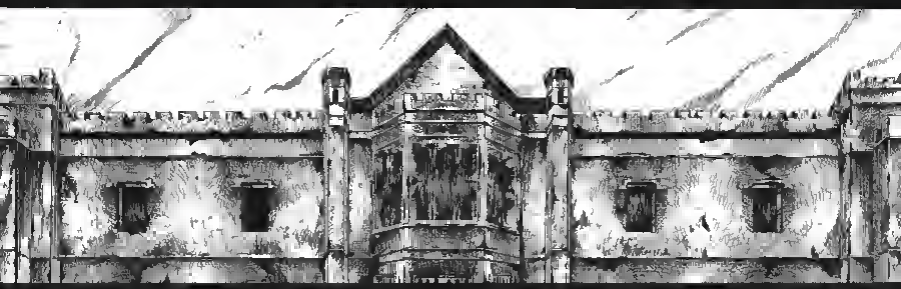
...RED

Black Butler

Chapter 11
At noon : The Butler, Retrospective

GOOOO (WHOOSH)
THAT DAY...
SISTER!!
BROTHER!!!
GOOO

...EACH AND EVERY PHANTOMHIVE LOST THEIR LIVES
AT THE HANDS OF SOME UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL.

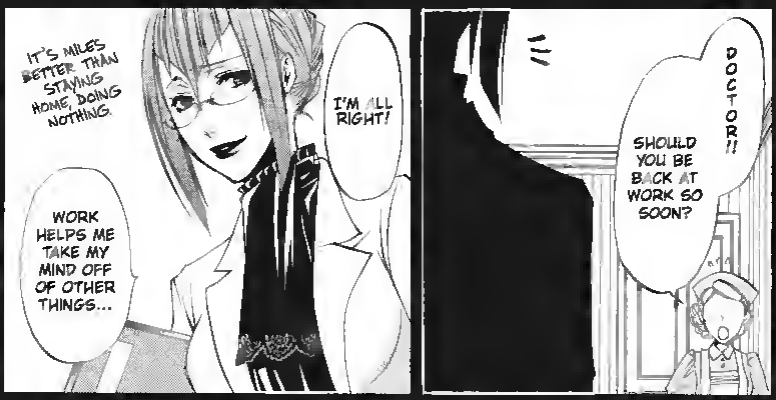


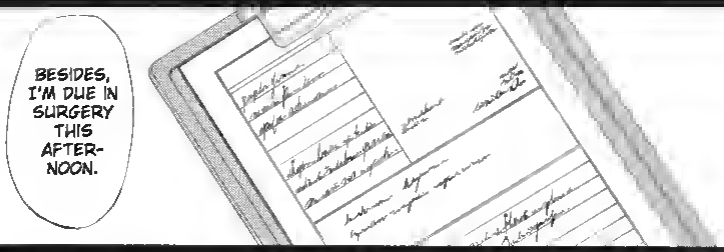
THE MANOR WAS BURNT TO THE GROUND—
MY SISTER AND HER HUSBAND WERE DISCOVERED IN A TERRIBLE STATE.

A CHILD'S CORPSE WAS NEVER RECOVERED.

—— I LOST EVERYTHING THAT WAS PRECIOUS TO ME.
EVERYTHING HAD FLOWN SOMEWHERE OUT OF MY REACH.

AND I CONTINUED TO LIVE ON...AS THE SOLE SURVIVOR.


DOCTOR!!
SHOULD YOU BE BACK AT WORK SO SOON?
I'M ALL RIGHT!
IT'S MILES BETTER THAN STAYING HOME, DOING NOTHING.
WORK HELPS ME TAKE MY MIND OFF OF OTHER THINGS...



YET...

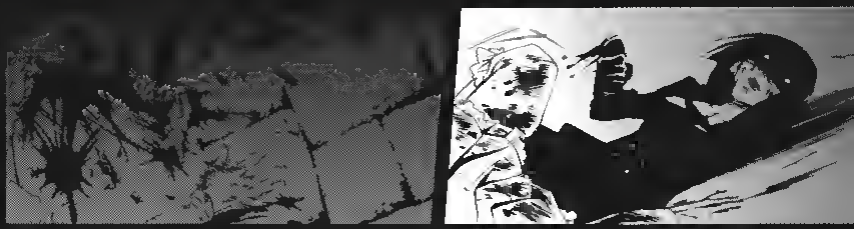
'EM BRATS JUS' GET IN TH' WAY.
I DUNNO 'OO TH' FATHER IS, AND I CAN'T RAISE TH' THING ON ME OWN.
AN ABORTION AIN'T FREE NEITHER, BUT I CAN'T GET NO COVES WI' A CHAVY 'ROUND!

I HATED THEM.
THEY HAD SOMETHING I COULD NEVER HAVE,
REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH I DESIRED IT.

JAAAA (SWAA)
...AND THOSE WHORES, WHO POSSESSED WHAT I WANTED MORE THAN ANYTHING...
...BUT WERE THROWING IT AWAY...
WHAT I WANTED. WHAT I CHERISHED.
I, WHO HAD LOST IT ALL...
JAAAA

WHY DID GOD MAKE ME SUFFER SO?
I ONLY ...
WHAT HAD I DONE TO DESERVE THAT?
...ONLY——
YER TH' ONE FROM AFORE...
...OH?
KOTSU
KOTSU
KOTSU
KOTSU (TMP)
NO... STO...
WHAT D'YOU THINK YER DOIN'...
WH—

AND SO I CUT THEM INTO LITTLE PIECES,
THE PROSTITUTES ON WHOM I PERFORMED THE ABORTIONS.
I WILL DO AWAY WITH THAT WHICH YOU DO NOT DESIRE, IF YOU SO WISH...
I WILL TAKE AWAY YOUR WOMB, YOUR HAPPINESS, YOUR LIFE—EVERYTHING.



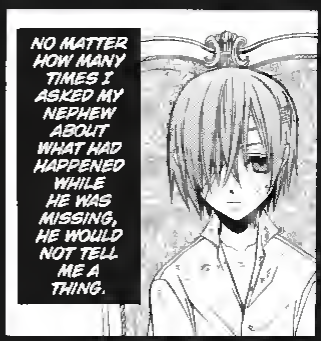
THEN...

...A CRIMSON-CLOAKED GRIM REAPER SMILED UPON ME.

THANKS TO YOU, THE LIST OF THE DEAD FOR THIS DISTRICT IS JAM-PACKED!
YOU'VE MADE ME EVER SO BUSY, YOU SEE.
BUT I UNDER-STAND VEEEERY WELL HOW YOU FEEL.
THOSE HIDEOUS ROADS DESERVED TO DIE.
TON (TAMP)

YOU AND I, WE'RE LIKE TWO PEAS IN A POD.
I WANT A BABY OF MY VERY OWN TOO, BUT IT SEEMS THAT MY BEING MALE IS A BIIIIT OF A PROBLEM.
...WILL LEND YOU A HAND.
I...
I...CUT MY RED HAIR, WHICH WAS CAKED WITH BLOOD.
—— A FEW MONTHS LATER, MY MISSING NEPHEW SUDDENLY RETURNED...
SO YOU WERE ALIVE ALL ALONG !!
CIEL! IS IT REALLY YOU, CIEL!?

...WITH A
BLACK-CLAD BUTLER
AT HIS SIDE.



THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD RETURNED...MY BELOVED——

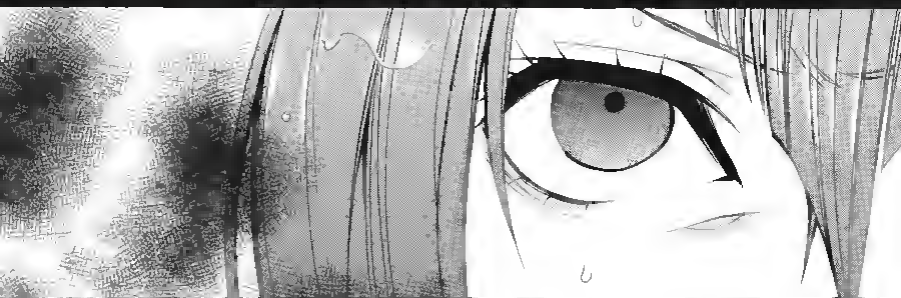
WHY DID THIS CHILD RETURN, WHEN "HE" DID NOT?

WHY DID THIS CHILD LIVE, WHILE "HE" DIED?

WHY HAD I NOT BEEN THE ONE TO MARRY "HIM"?

SISTER...WHAT MORE ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE AWAY FROM ME?

THIS TIME...I WILL NOT YIELD A THING TO YOU...



I WILL NOT YIELD ANY-THING !!!
I LOVED YOU DYED IN THE DEEPEST CRIMSON OF SPATTERED BLOOD...
...MADAM RED!!

I HAVEN'T THE LEAST INTEREST IN SOME-ONE...
...WHO GETS CARRIED AWAY BY SILLY EMO-TIONS.
POSA (COLLAPSE)
KA (CLICK)
I HELPED YOU SET UP YOUR ALIBI TOO.
AND I EVEN BROKE THE RULES THAT GOVERN US REAPERS, KILLING WOMEN NOT ON THE LIST, ALL FOR YOUR SAKE...
KA
WHAT A LET-DOWN!

YOU DON'T DESERVE TO WEAR RED AT ALL...NO, MA'AM!
GUI (TUG)
KA
YOU WERE JUST THE SAME AS ALL THOSE OTHER WOMEN.
ZA (SKSH)
BASA (FLAP)
THE CURTAIN HAS FALLEN ON YOUR CHEAP PERFORMANCE OF "LIFE."
FAREWELL...
...MADAM.

HA (GASP)
HA
HA
HAAAAAA
SU (KNEEL)
PASHA (SPLASH)
SU (CLOSE)
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SEBASTIAN.
I...
...ORDERED YOU TO "HUNT JACK THE RIPPER"...
.....?

IT'S NOT OVER YET.
PIKU
SO DON'T STAND AROUND TWIDDLING YOUR THUMBS, MAN.
HUNT DOWN THE LAST ONE.

...As you wish.
NOYA (SHIRO)
HEE!
I WAS ALL READY TO LET YOU GO 'COS I'M REALLY NOT FEELING IT ANY-MORE, BUT...
...IF YOU'RE THAT DES-PERATE TO DIE, I'LL DO YOU THE FAVOUR OF SENDING THE TWO OF YOU...
GARUN (TUG)
...TO HEAVEN!!
GYARARA (VWRRR)

HEAVEN, WAS IT?
I AM NOT FATED TO GO THERE, I FEAR.
TA (TIMP)
TA
GO (WHSH)
YOURS TRULY IS JUST IN THE FOULEST OF FOUL MOODS AT THE MOMENT!
SO DON'T EXPECT ME TO GO EASY—
!?
BAKIN (WHAM)

TO (TMP)
!!
KILL (SHRIEK)
FOR A LADY, HER FACE IS HER LIFE!
HEY ...! YOU JUST AIMED FOR MY FACE RIGHT NOW, DIDN'T YOU!?
NO (HUSH)
YOU FIEND !!

HRM!
DO YOU THINK A DEVIL CAN WIN AGAINST A GOD, HM?

OH, YOU ARE QUITE RIGHT ON THAT ACCOUNT.
HER.
TO
FOR I AM...
...A DEVIL OF A BUTLER.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO SAY.
HAVING NEVER FOUGHT ONE, I CANNOT BE SURE, BUT...

...IF YOUNG MASTER TELLS ME TO WIN...
... THEN WIN I SHALL.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND THAT BRAT, BUT YOU'RE AWFULLY INTO HIM.
IT JUST RILES ME RIIIIGHT UP!

BUT...
...EVEN A DEVIL SUCH AS YOURSELF WILL PERISH IF HUNTED WITH A DEATH SCYTHE, YOU KNOW?
GYARARARA (VVRRRR)
AREN'T YOU JUST QUAKING IN YOUR BOOTS AT THE THOUGHT?
NOT AT ALL.
SAA (FWAAH)
THIS BODY AND SOUL... EVERYTHING, DOWN TO THE LAST HAIR ON THIS HEAD, BELONGS TO MY MASTER NOW.
FOR OBEYING THE MASTER'S ORDERS SO LONG AS THE COVENANT ENDURES ...
THAT IS A BUTLER'S AESTHETIC. HIS PHI-LOSOPHY, IF YOU WILL.

HMMMMM...
I DO RATHER LIKE MEN WHO PURSUE THE ARTS, SEBASTIAN DARLING!
IF HE TELLS ME TO DIE, I SHALL DISAP-PEAR.
IF HE TELLS ME NOT TO DIE, I WILL NOT DIE.
十一
SUDDENLY I WANT TO STOMP ON THAT COM-POSED FACE OF YOURS WITH MY HEELS...
KA
PO (SWING)
...AND MAKE YOU LICK MY SHOES!!

A DEVIL...
...AND A GRIM REAPER.
GA
GA
GA
WILL WE NEVER BE ABLE TO UNDER-STAND EACH OTHER?
IF A REAPER IS ONE WHOSE JOB IT IS TO RETRIEVE SOULS...
...A DEVIL IS A NOXIOUS BEAST THAT STEALS AND DEVOURS THOSE SOULS!
MY FEELINGS WILL NEVER BE REQUIT-ED...
IT'S AS IF THIS IS...

...the tragedy of Romeo and Juliet!
じょ
SOWA (SHIVER)
ゎっ
WHAT THAT?
COMPLY BUMPS

IF YOU AND I ARE THE STARS ...
AAH, SEBASTIAN DARLING!
...SHAKE-SPEARE WILL GRIEVE SOUNDLY!
DENY THY MASTER AND REFUSE THY SPITEFUL NAME...
...AND CAST YOUR EYES UPON ME ALONE!

WHEREFORE ART THOU, SEBASTIAN DARLING?
...THAT WORD BECAME MY COVENANT AND CHRISTENED ME ANEW.
FROM THE TIME...
...MY MASTER CALLED ME "SEBASTIAN"...

I VOWED AS MUCH TO THE MOON, YOU SEE?
I HAVE BEEN "SEBASTIAN" SINCE THAT DAY.
TO (TMP)
YOUR EYES ARE THE EYES OF ONE WHO DOES NOT LOVE— TARNISHED EYES
YOU ARE A DEVIL THAT DEFILES INNOCENT SOULS WITH YOUR VILE HANDS AND LIPS
KU (TNP)
SWEARING ON THE MOON IS THE ACT OF AN INSINCERE MAN
YES... OHHH, YES...
YOU'RE GIVING ME THE CHILLS, SEBASTIAN DARLING!
ZOKU
HFF, HFF
IF IT'S YOUR CHILD WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, I THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO BIRTH IT!
ZOKU
ZOKU (SHIVER)

MY LITTLE LAMB WITH THE APPE-TITES OF A WOLF...
MY VERY OWN SEBASTIAN DARLING!!
PLEASE CEASE YOUR FOLLY. I FIND THE MERE THOUGHT REVOLT-ING.
NOT TO MENTION IT IS BIO-LOGICALLY IMPOS-SIBLE.
YUCK!
AAHH! SUCH AN ICE KING YOU ARE!
SWING
A BEAUTI-FUL TYRANT!
AN ANGELIC DEVIL!!
A RAVEN WITH THE WINGS OF A DOVE !!!
GYARARARA (WWRRR)

OHH...
...SE-BAS-TIAN DAR-LING...
GYARA RAR
GYAR RAR GYARRR
I WISH THE SUN WOULD NEVER RISE.
THEN WE COULD KEEP HUNTING EACH OTHER FOR ALL ETERNITY.

...THIS IS THE END OF OUR ROMANTIC ADVENTURE.
BUT...
SU (SWF)
...!
LET US PART WITH A PASSIONATE KISS!
...SEBASTIAN DARLING! ♡
NOW...
...I BID YOU A THOUSAND...
...NO, TEN THOUSAND ADIEUS, MY SWEET PRINCE!

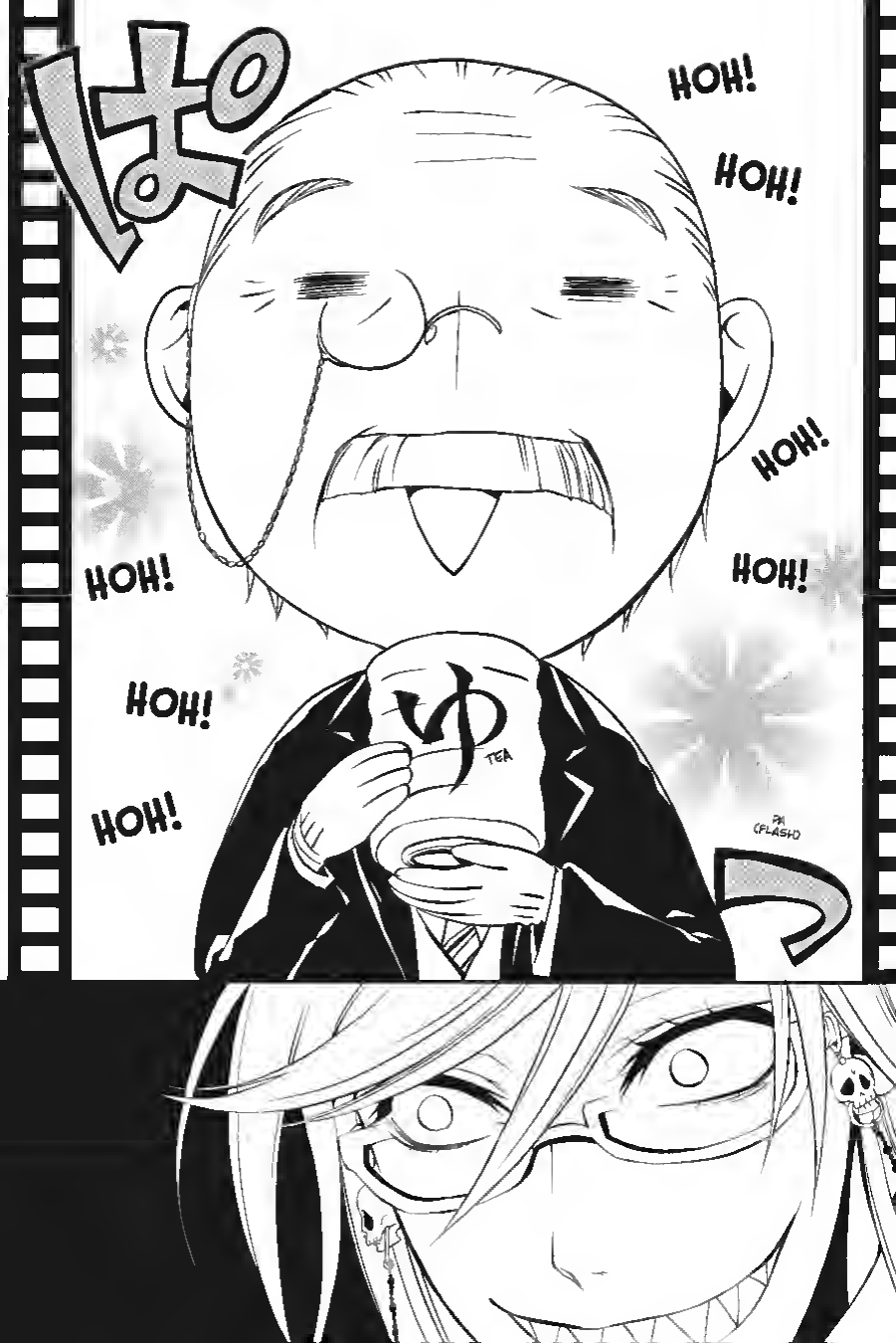
DO
(slice)

Black Butler

Chapter 12

In the afternoon : The Butler, Retaliatory

NOW...
...SHOW ME A DRAMATIC... NO, A MOVING MOVING PICTURE...!
ZAZAA
CFWOOSHO


はっ
HOH!
HOH!
HOH!
HOH!
HOH!
HOH!
HOH!
TEA
PA
CFLASH

UWAAAAHN!!
DO (VROOOM)
MISTER SEBASTIAAAAN!!
DO
XXX (30) SPOONFULS, JUST AS THE DIRECTIONS SAY, BUT SOMETHING SEEMS TO HAVE GONE WROOONG!
DO
COOKING IS ART!!
DO
N—! NO—! NOW—!
NOW JUST A MINUTE!
WHO THE HELL ARE THESE IDIOTS!?
THERE'S NOT EVEN A SMIDGE OF DRAMA HERE AT ALL!
HITZ A (FWOOSH) MI
WELL GET ANGRY SO PLEASE ME MONEY SHIT BUTLER!
SPEC-TACLES BY MEI
YOU WILL ONLY FIND MUNDANE HAPPEN-STANCES SUCH AS THESE OVER THE PAST YEAR...
KOFF!
HAAH...!

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN ORDINARY FOLKS LIKE THEM!
SHOW ME SOMETHING JUICIER!
THERE'S NOTHING BEAUTIFUL ABOUT THEM IN THE SLIGHTEST!!
BA (FLAP)
BA
MY APOLOGIES . HOWEVER..
HYU (DASH)
...YOU MUST PAY TO SEE THE REST.
TCH!
ZUBA (SWING)

KNELL
TA (TMP)
DAH!
OH DEAR...
MY CLOTHES ARE IN TATTERS ONCE MORE...
I HAD HOPED THAT MENDING THE SHOULDERS WOULD HELP, BUT...
...THIS TAILCOAT IS BEYOND REDEMPTION.
GYAHAHA (YHEEE)
BUT I DO LOVE A MAN WHO CARES ABOUT THE WAY HE LOOKS...
...SE-BASTIAN DARLING!
TO (TMP)
WORRY-ING ABOUT YOUR OUTFIT AT A TIME LIKE THIS IS VERY CHEEKY OF YOU
PERHAPS YOUR WOUNDS WERE NOT DEEP ENOUGH?

BASA (FLAP)
FUUUU (SIGH)
I DID NOT WANT TO USE THIS APPROACH, BUT...
...I FEAR I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.
GOO (RUMBLE)
GACHA (CHAK)
TSS-HEE..
SO YOU'VE FINALLY MADE UP YOUR MIND TO FIGHT ME SERIOUSLY?

HOW ABOUT WE BRING THIS SHOW TO A CLOSE WITH THE NEXT ATTACK...
...SE-BASTIAN DARLING!
JA-
LET US BID THIS WORLD FAREWELL ...
...AND BE UNITED IN THE NEXT, OKAY?
JARI (GRUNCH)
ヒュ
HYUUUU (FWOOSH)
ウ
ウ

SEBASTIAN DARLING!!
DA CDAECHO
GYARARA (WIRES)

...EH?
SFX SHI N (SILENT)
!!?
GI (TUG)
GI
GI
SHIING
FIGHI (STUCK)
WHAAA AAAAAA AAAAAA AAAAAA AAAAAA AAAAAA AAAAAA AAAAAA AAAAAA AAAT!!?
IT STOPPED MOVING!!?
TO (TMP)...

IF THE CUTTING EDGE OF YOUR DEATH SCYTHE IS DEPENDENT UPON ITS REVOLUTION...
...IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT I ONLY NEEDED TO KEEP IT FROM DOING SO.
I'LL GET RID OF THIS RIGHT AWAY —!!
HNGH!
HNGH!
HNGH!
HNGH!
HNGH!
THAT TAILCOAT IS TAILORED FROM TOP QUALITY WOOL.
THE FRICTIONAL FORCE OF WOOL IS SIGNIFI-CANT.
ONCE CAUGHT, REMOVING IT WILL BE NO SIMPLE MATTER.
WHAT THE HELL!!?
AS IT IS SUPPLIED BY THE MANOR...
...I HAD WISHED TO AVOID EMPLOYING MY COAT AT ALL COSTS, BUT...
HAAAAAAAH.
...THERE WAS SIMPLY NO WAY AROUND IT.
IT WAS PRACTICALLY ALL RAGS ANYWAY

NOW... MISTER GRELLE...
AH...
KQ
KQ
THE DEATH SCYTHE THAT CAN CUT THROUGH EVERY-THING.
THAT IS, IF ONE CAN ACTUALLY WIELD IT...
...RIGHT?
HEH...
AH...
AAH ...!
KQ
...YOU CAN NO LONGER UTILISE YOUR DEATH SCYTHE, CAN YOU?
HMPH!

IF WE SIMPLY MAKE THIS A BATTLE OF FISTS...
...I DO HAVE SOME CONFI-DENCE I CAN WIN.

AH...! H-! HEY, WAIT...
D...

...Whew.

JUST NOT THE FAAAACE!
GYAAAAA-AAAAAA-AAAAH!!

AH...
DON'T GRAND
AH WON'T HURRRGET DIIIISH...
GUH-FUH!!
SFX: KO (CLACK) KO
BUT...
KO
KO
UGH
OH...? I SHOULD EXPECT NO LESS FROM A REAPER.
A PHYSICAL ASSAULT CANNOT KILL YOU.
GUNK CRNK?
...WHAT IF I WERE TO USE THIS?

BUCHI (FSSHK)
SINCE THE DEATH SCYTHE CAN MAKE MINCE-MEAT OF ANY-THING...
...IT FOLLOWS THAT I WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE MINCE-MEAT OF YOU AS WELL, NO?
BUCHI
.....!?
SFX: ZURI (DRAG) ZURI
KO-
WH-WHAT ARE YOU THINK —!
HOLD IT...!
KO
GYAH!
GUSHA (CRUSH)
...BUT BEING THE ONE DOING THE STEPPING IS ANOTHER STORY AL-TOGETHER.
FU-FU!
MISHI (CREAK)
I DO NOT ENJOY BEING STEPPED ON...
MISHI
MIKI (CRACK)
OW D'OWN —!
OWWWW

GUUURRCH!!
MIGI (CREAK)
YOUR WAILS HAVE A RATHER TUNEFUL RING TO THEM.
MIGHI (CRACK)
SEBAS... A-GYAAA-AAAH!
GARUN (TUG)
AS A REWARD ...
...I SHALL SEND YOU TO THE NEXT LIFE...
...WITH THE HELP OF YOUR FAVOURITE TOY.
GYUUU (VWEE)
MEKI (CRICK)
AAAH!
NO!
STO
PA
PA
I THINK NOT.
NIKKORI (SMILE)
PLEA —!
(SNIVEL)
HAAH!
PLEASE, SEBASTIAN PARL... STOOOP!
HAAH!

SUN (SWING)
S...
ST...
...OOOOOP!!

GAKIN (CLANG)
RA
RA
GYARA (WHINE)
!?

AH...
!?
PLEASE PARDON THE INTER-RUPTION.

カシャ カシャ ガシャ!!
KASHA (SHA)
KASHA
KASHA
I...
...AM WILLIAM T. SPEARS FROM THE MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE GRIM REAPER DISPATCH.
I HAVE COME TO CLAIM THAT REAPER.
KASHAN (SHAN)
カシャン!
WILL!
WIL-LIAM!
YOU CAME TO RES-CUE ...

EEEE...
GUSHA (WHAM)
DISPATCH MEMBER GRELLE SUTCLIFF.
YOU ARE GUILTY OF HAVING VIOLATED OUR ORDINANCES.
SFX: MISHI (CRICK) MISHI MISHI MISHI MISHI MISHI MISHI
FIRST, BY KILLING THOSE NOT ON THE LIST OF THE DEAD.
GA (KICK)
SECOND, BY USING A DEATH SCYTHE WITHOUT SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR SAID USE.
GA
GA
GASU (KICK)
GASU
GASU
NI BUFUH!
AGH!
HEH

ZURRAN (WHAM)
BUHH
QUIET.
YOU'RE SO COLD—
LISTEN!! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GET KILLED, YOU HEAR!?
GRRRR...
ZURU (DRAG)
ZURU
ZURU
WE WILL RETURN TO HEADQUARTERS RIGHT AWAY AND HAVE YOU SUBMIT A WRITTEN APOLOGY AND REPORT.
ふかぶか
FUKABUKAAA (DEEP BOW)
AH.
MY CARD.
THAT THING
I APOLOGISE FOR ALL THE TROUBLE THAT THING HAS CAUSED YOU.
...IS AN AFFRONT TO ALL REAPERS.
HAVING TO BOW TO A NOXIOUS BEAST LIKE YOU...
REALLY...
(GOD) MUMBLE)

HUMANS ARE EASILY TEMPTED.
THEN PLEASE KEEP WATCH OVER YOUR UNDERLINGS SO AS NOT TO INCONVENIENCE SAID NOXIOUS BEAST.
WHEN THEY ARE POISED ON THE EDGE OF HELLISH DESPAIR...
...AND A SPIDER'S THREAD OF SALVATION PRESENTS ITSELF, THEY WILL INVARIABLY GRASP IT...
...NO MATTER THE MANNER OF HUMAN.

I DO NOT DENY THAT.
HEH...
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THAT, YOU DEVILS SEDUCE HUMANS...
...AND LIVE BY LEECHING OFF OF THEM, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
CHIRA (GLANCE)
チラ
...I SUPPOSE YOU'RE SOMEWHAT BETTER THAN A MAD DOG WITH NO SENSE OF FIDELITY, HM?
THOUGH AS A COLLARED PET DOG ...
...ALL RIGHT. IT'S TIME WE RETURNED, GRELLE SUTCLIFF.

SFX: BUTSU (MUTTER) BUTSU BUTSU
GOOD GRIEF... WE'RE UNDER-STAFFED TO BEGIN WITH...
ZURU (DRAG)
ZURU
...AND NOW I SHAN'T BE ABLE TO CLOCK OUT ON TIME YET AGAIN THANKS TO YOU.
BUTSU
SHA PUNG

SHISH (THWAP)
SHIIN (WHOOSH)
NIKO (SMILE)
...You forgot something.
.....

—CHEERS...
NOW...
...IF YOU WILL EXCUSE US...
(CLACK)
ZURU
ZURU (DRAG)
ZURU
ZURU
ZURU
ZURU

FORGIVE ME, SIR. I FAILED TO CAPTURE THE REMAINING CULPRIT.
...LET IT GO.
SO CRUEL?
JUST... LET IT GO.

YOU HAVE BECOME TERRIBLY CHILLED.
LET US RETURN TO THE TOWN HOUSE AT ONCE.
AND I SHALL PREPARE THAT HOT MILK FOR YOU AS PROMISED, ALL RIGHT ?
.....
YES, VERY WELL.
YOUNG MASTER!
YORO (SWAY)

BASHI (SLAP)
YOUNG —!
DON'T.

I'M ALL RIGHT.
I CAN STAND ON MY OWN.
I'M...
.....

...JUST...
...A BIT TIRED...

Black Butler

Chapter 13

At night : The Butler, Mourning

GARAAAN (CLANG)
GARAAAN
Hmm-hh
SHAAA-
SFX, GORODON (CLANG) GARAAAN
THERE SURE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE AT THE CHURCH OVER THERE, HUH?
WHY?
DUNNO.
HM?
BIG BRUV-VER!
GARAAAN
NHA!?
I'M ONLY TWELVE, SO I DON'T HAFTA KNOW!
YES, QUITE RIGHT.
BIG BRUVVER IS BIG, BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW?
ARE YOU A DUMMY?
BOOOD
BUMMMP

IT MAKES PEEEERFECT SENSE FOR A CHILD TO NOT KNOW.
YOU SEE, TODAY ...
AGE! AGE!
...THEY ARE HOLDING A CERTAIN NOBLE-WOMAN'S GALA.
GALA ...?
NUDA (LOOK)
YES.
THE LAST, GRANDEST CEREMONY OF HER LIFE.

HER FUNERAL.
AUNT AN...

GACHA
GACHA
ZAWA
ZAWAZAWAZAWA
ZAWA
ZAWA
KO
KOKOKO

CIEL ...!
A RED DRESS ...!?
ZA (WHOOSH)

コ
KO
KO
(CLICK)
ZAWA
ZAWA
(MURMURS)
KOTGUN
(CLACK)

—WHITE FLOWERS...
BASA (FLAP)
...AND PLAIN CLOTHES...
...DO NOT BEFIT YOU.
SU (SWF)
WHAT SUITS YOU BEST...
...IS PASSIONATE RED.

THE COLOUR OF LYCORIS THAT BLAZES THE EARTH...
...AUNT AN.
—AH.
HIRA (FLUTTER)

FUWA
(FLOAT)

...MADAM RED.
—GOOD NIGHT...

KAKAN (OUND)
KAKAN
—...
THERE IS NO NEED TO DO SO...
YOU ARE NOT REPORTING THE TRUE IDENTITY OF JACK THE RIPPER TO THE QUEEN?
—AND THUS...
...DO YOU BECOME FURTHER MIRED IN THE MUD.
...AS JACK THE RIPPER IS NO LONGER IN LONDON.
...?

EVEN IF YOU REACH A PLACE FROM WHENCE YOU CANNOT RETURN...
...YOU WILL NEVER UTTER AN UNSIGHTLY SCREAM OR BEG FOR HELP IN FRONT OF ANYBODY.
YOU PROUD...
... HOUND OF THE QUEEN.
I SHALL BE CAREFUL MYSELF...
...TO AVOID FALLING INTO MY LORD'S "CARE."
THE ADDICTIVE NATURE OF OPIUM IS BECOMING A PROBLEM.
IT IS BUT A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE IT BECOMES REGULATED IN GREAT BRITAIN.
AND IF THAT HAPPENS, THE OPIUM DENS YOU CHINAMEN ARE OPERATING WILL HAVE TO BE SHUT DOWN.

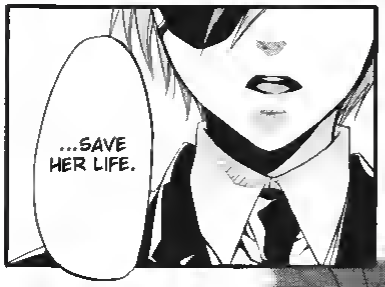
AND IN YOU AS WELL ...
...MY LORD.
ZAA (FWOOSH)
THEN I WILL COME UP WITH ANOTHER BUSINESS.
I AM STILL INTERESTED IN THIS COUNTRY.
I EXPECT YOU WILL CONTINUE...
...TO AMUSE ME.
SEBASTIAN.
WE HAVE SOMEPLACE TO BE.
COME.
ZA (CRUNCH)

I CLEANED HER UP AND BURIED HER.
OF COURSE
—UNDER TAKER
ARE YOU DONE?
SEE?
MARY JANE KELLY
MARY JANE KELLY
IT SEEMS SHE WAS AN IMMIGRANT FROM OVER-SEAS
WE COULD NOT FIND A SOUL TO CLAIM HER BODY.
MY LAST CLIENT FROM THE JACK THE RIPPER INCIDENT.

ZAA (FWOOSH)
...KNEW.
...I...
GYU (CLENCH)
I AM NOT KIND.
♫
HEE! HEE! HEE!
AND SO THE KIND EARL BUILT A GRAVE FOR THE NAMELESS WHOOORE!
...BE ABLE TO SAVE THIS WOMAN.
I KNEW THAT I WOULD NOT...
BUT I DID NOT ATTEMPT ANY OF THEM.
...THERE WERE ANY NUMBER OF WAYS TO RESCUE HER THAT NIGHT.
IF I HAD ONLY...
...THOUGHT OF HER LIFE FIRST...

I KNEW...
...THAT I WOULD NOT...

I KNEW SHE COULD HAVE BEEN RESCUED...
...BUT MY FIRST PRIORITY WAS TO CAPTURE JACK THE RIPPER.


...SAVE HER LIFE.

JUST AS I LET MY OWN FLESH AND BLOOD DIE...

I KNEW...
...AND I LET HER DIE.

NO.
JACK THE RIPPER IS NO MORE.
...DO YOU REGRET IT?
QUEEN VIC-TORIA, HM?
CAN'T SAY I LIKE HER ONNNNE BIT!
THE PALL CAST ON QUEEN VICTORIA HAS BEEN LIFTED.
...AND MAKES THE EARL HANDLE AAAAALL THE TOUGH DIRTY WORK.
MARY JANE KELLY
SHE ONLY LOOKS ON FROM AFAR...

IT HAS BEEN HANDED DOWN FOR GENERATIONS TOGETHER WITH THIS RING.
THAT IS THE FATE OF OUR FAMILY.
THE ONE WHO DECIDED TO PUT THAT COLLAR AROUND THIS NECK ...
...WAS I.
THAT RING IS PRACTICALLY A COLLAR, HMM?
IT BINDS YOU TO THE QUEEN THROUGH THE CHAINS OF FATE.
I PRAY YOU DO NOT HANG YOURSELF WITH IT SOMEDAY.
GLU (GRAY)
!

I WOULD FIND THAT GRAVELY DISAPPOINTING.
GU (TUG)
SURU (SLIP)
FEEL FREE TO VISIT ME.
MILORD AND MASTER BUTLER ARE WELCOME ANYTIME.
KOFF!
HEE! HEE....!

—YOU TRULY ARE KIND.
DO NOT MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF. I AM NO SUCH THING—
OH, BUT YOU ARE. OR WOULD YOU RATHER...

WHY DID YOU NOT SHOOT?
BA (FWIP)
...!
HEH!
YOU BAS-TARD...
...I ADDRESS YOU AS A "COWARD"?

"JUST AS I LET MY OWN FLESH AND BLOOD DIE..."?
I DO NOT APPROVE OF LYING, SIR.
YOU HAD A PISTOL ON YOUR PERSON THAT NIGHT.
YOU COULD HAVE SIMPLY SHOT HER IF YOU SO DESIRED.
EVEN WHEN I URGED YOU TO DO SO...
...YOU DID NOT TAKE UP YOUR GUN.
INSTEAD, YOU HESITATED.
WHY WAS THAT?

WERE YOU AFRAID TO KILL MADAM RED...
...BY YOUR OWN HAND?
THOUGH YOU WERE ABLE TO SEND A STRANGER TO HER DEATH...
MARY JANE
...YOU COULD NOT DO SO FOR YOUR KIN?
.....

BECAUSE THAT WAS YOUR JOB.
I DID NOT SHOOT, BECAUSE I BELIEVED...
...YOU'D PROTECT ME EVEN IF YOU DIED DOING SO.
...!
THE COVENANT BETWEEN YOU AND I...
...HOLDS THAT YOU WILL ASSIST ME UNTIL I "ACHIEVE MY OBJECTIVES"...
...AND PROTECT MY LIFE "UNTIL THAT DAY COMES TO PASS."

IF IT IS A DEVIL'S AESTHETIC TO OBEY A COVENANT...
IT WOULD'VE BEEN A BREACH OF CONTRACT IF I'D DIED THERE
...YOU WOULD HAVE COME TO MY RESCUE EVEN IF YOU PERISHED IN THE PROCESS.
A DEVIL POSSESSES NEITHER "BELIEFS," NOR "LOYALTY."
HE HAS ONLY HIS "AESTHETIC," HIS PHILOSOPHY.
AND YOU WILL PROTECT ME IN ITS NAME.
THEREFORE...
...YOU WOULD HAVE KILLED MADAM RED...
...THUS SAVING ME THE TROUBLE OF HAVING TO DO IT MYSELF.
ISN'T THAT SO?

MADAM DEFILED THE PUBLIC SPHERE WITH THE POWERS OF THE UNDER-WORLD.
THEN WHY...DID YOU STOP ME?
.....
AND LET'S NOT FORGET, MY DUTY INCLUDES SAVING THE YARD'S FACE AS WELL.
THUS SHE MUST BE JUDGED IN THE PROPER PLACE.
...TO KILL ME, HER KIN.
...THAT SHE... WOULD NOT BE ABLE...
I FELT...
MADAM RED'S EYES HELD DOUBT WHEN SHE MADE HER ATTEMPT ON MY LIFE.

SHE HESITATED AND LOST SIGHT OF HER NEXT MOVE
JUST AS IN CHESS.
IF ONE WAVERS AT ANY MOMENT, IT MAY VERY WELL BE AT THE COST OF ONE'S LIFE.
THAT IS ALL.
SO I WILL NOT HESITATE.

...SO IT MUST BE...
NI (GRIN)
ZOKU (SHIVER)
THE KING ALWAYS USES HIS PAWNS TO SURVIVE.
JUST LIKE YOU USED ME, YOUR KNIGHT, AND THE MADAM, THE QUEEN.

NO MATTER HOW MANY CORPSES OF HIS PAWNS PILE UP AT THE FOOT OF HIS THRONE...
...HE MUST ALWAYS REMAIN STANDING.
...THE "GAME" IS OVER IF THE KING FALLS...
I WILL NEVER STOP.
NOR WILL I EVER REGRET MOVING FORWARD.
SO...

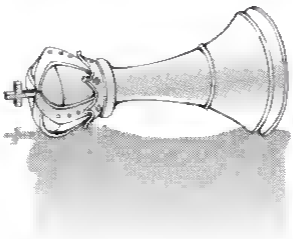
...I COMMAND YOU.

DO NOT BETRAY ME.
ALWAYS STAY BY MY SIDE.
...NO MATTER WHAT!

—YES...
...MY LORD.
BASA (FWIP)
IF YOU SO WISH...
...I SHALL ACCOMPANY YOU UNTIL THE VERY END.

EVEN IF THE THRONE CRUMBLES ...
...AND THE SHINING CROWN ROTS AWAY.
...BESIDE THE LITTLE KING WHO LIES SILENTLY...
...THERE WILL I REMAIN, UPON THE HEAP OF CARCASSES ...
EVEN IF COUNTLESS BODIES PILE UP ...

...UNTIL
I HEAR THE
FINAL CALL.



Black Butler

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!
CHAPTER 14
At midnight : The Butler, On the Hunt

Black Butler

ONCE UPON A DREARY EVE...AT MIDNIGHT WHEN ALL HOPES AND DREAMS HAD BEEN LOST.....
I, WHO HAD BEEN POSSESSED BY AN APPARITION, SPIED A STATELY RAVEN HAPPEN BY OVER-HEAD...
AND WITH DREAMING EYES QUOTH THE RAVEN
"THAT WHICH IS LOST SHALL NEVER RETURN."
"Never more."

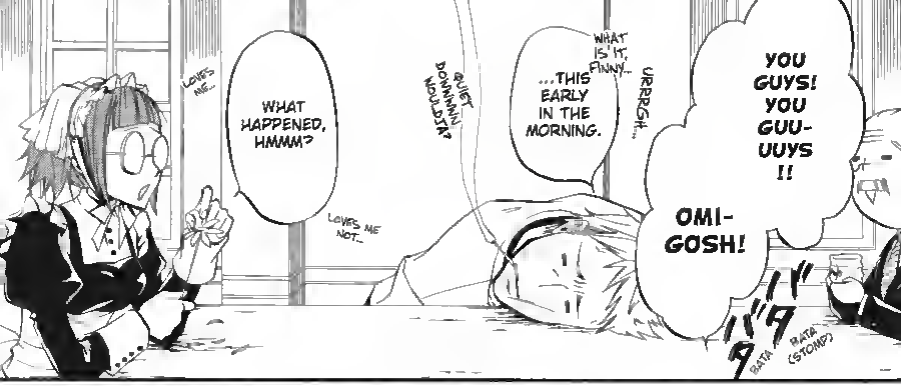
—STER
—YOUNG MASTER
YOUNG MASTER.
...!!

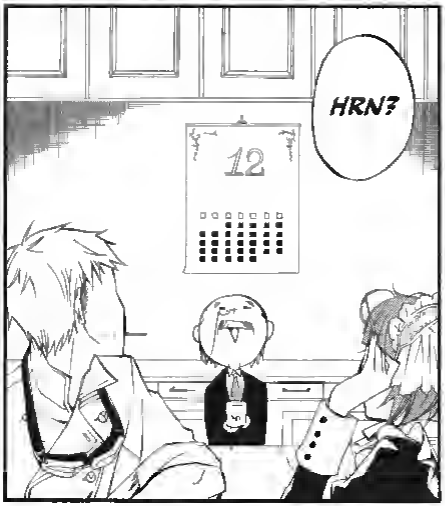
GACHI
GCHAK
HAH!
HAH!
NIKO
CGRIN
DO NOT —!
KACHI
CSHAKE
TOUCH ME—!

FOR TODAY'S MORNING TEA, I HAVE PREPARED ASSAM WITH PLENTY OF MILK.
DOKUN DOKUN
DO
HAAH!
HAAH!
THE MILK WILL SERVE TO RELAX YOU.
KOPOKO
IT WILL CALM YOU DOWN.
DO
HAAH!
HAAH!
ESPE-CIALLY ...
...AFTER A BAD DREAM...
DO
HAAAAAH...!
KACHA
COLINO

I DO AS I PLEASE.
WHAT OF THE DAY'S SCHED-ULE?
HEH
IT IS ALL BECAUSE YOU READ POE BEFORE GOING TO BED.
※EDGAR ALLAN POE (1809-1849) AMERICAN AUTHOR
DAMN!!
AND YOUNG MAS-TER'S—
AND IN THE AFTER-NOON, THE MARCHIONESS OF MIDFORD AND LADY ELIZABETH WILL BE VISITING.
TODAY YOU MUST REVIEW THE DOCUMENTS SENT FROM HEADQUAR-TERS
YOU DO NOT NEED TO HURRY SO. THE MARCHIO-NESS WILL BE HERE THIS AFTER-NOON—
FOOL!!
?
BEGIN PRE-PARA-TIONS RIGHT AWAY!

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AUNT FRANCIS HERE!!
IF THEY HADN'T...
I WONDER WHAT WOULD'VE HAPPENED TO US IF THEY HADN'T...
FINISHED WEEDING, YAY!
DUN, DERE.
AAAH, I'M SO GLAD MISTER SEBASTIAN AND THE YOUNG MASTER ARE BACK!
A FAIRY
SOON IT'LL BE CHRIST-MAS, HUUUH !?
AH!
THE CHRISTMAS ROSES ARE BLOOMING!
AH!


LOVES ME...
WHAT HAPPENED, HMMM?
LOVES ME NOT...
BUST DOWNNNN! NOOO DIE!
...THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING.
WHAT IS IT, FINNY...
URRRGH...
YOU GUYS! YOU GUU-UUYS!!
OMI-GOSH!
バタ
BATA
BATA (STOMP)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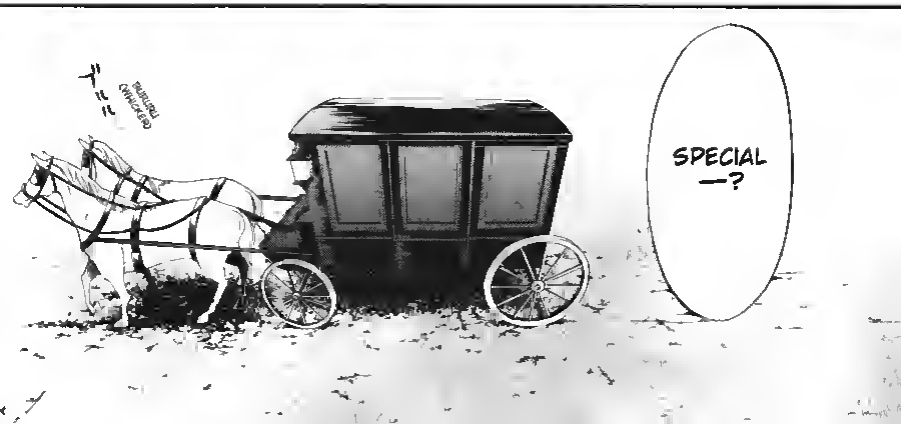
HRN?

SHEESH, HAVE ALL OF YOU FORGOT-TEN?
TODAY'S A SPECIAL DAY!!


ドドドド (HOOFBEATS)
SPECIAL —?

YOU HAVE ARRIVED EARLIER THAN EXPECTED TODAY AS WELL...
YORE (UNKEMPT)
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I SAW YOU LAST, MARCHIONESS OF MIDFORD.
SPARE ME THE FORMALITIES.
YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'VE JUST RISEN, EARL PHANTOMHIVE.
NO, I—
GOSSSH!
CIEL'S CUTE EVEN WHEN HE HAS JUST WOKEN UP!
GUEH!
GYUU
GYUUUU (CRUSHED)
ELIZABETH!!
YOU'RE CRUSHING ME...
(PAIN)
I'M SORRY, MOTHER!!
ゴゴゴゴ (GOGOGO... STEAM)
DO NOT BEHAVE SO RUDELY BEFORE YOU'VE EVEN GREETED HIM.
I HAVE ALWAYS TOLD YOU THAT A LADY MUST OBSERVE THE PROPRIETIES EVEN WHEN SHE'S AT HER MOTHER'S FAMILY HOME.

IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I SAW YOU LAST.
WELCOME, MARCHIONESS AND LADY ELIZABETH.
JIJI (STARE)
YOU HAVE TRAVELED A GREAT DISTANCE TODAY—
?
AH...
EHM...
MIGHT THERE BE SOMETHING ON MY FA—
YOU LOOK...
PFFT!
...LECHEROUS!
PER USUAL
I AM AFRAID I WAS BORN THIS WAY—
MOREOVER!
SU (SNIF)
BOTH YOU AND YOUR MASTER ARE SPORTING LONG BANGS, THOUGH YOU'RE BOTH MALE. HOW UNSEEMLY!
GA (GRAB)
EEK!!
YOU NEED TO LEARN A THING OR TWO FROM TANAKA THERE!
HOH! HOH! HOH!
A-!
AUNT FRANCES!?
PLEASE JUST WAI—
HANG ON—
AAAAAAA

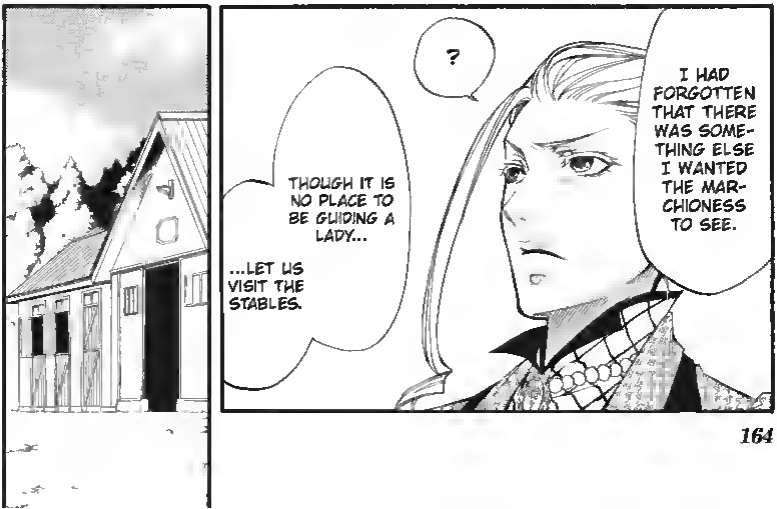
ペカ
...AUNT FRANCIS...
I APOLOGISE FOR TROUBLING YOU...
ペカ (PROPER)
HMPH!
INDEED.
THEY DON'T LOOK TOO CUTE...
YOU COWARD! AND YOU CALL YOURSELF THE HEAD OF THE ORDER!!?
...LADY FRANCIS DEFEATED THE HEAD OF THE ORDER OF KNIGHTS— THE MARQUESS OF MIDFORD— ~~WITH SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH,~~ WHICH LED TO THEIR MARRIAGE.
THE RUMOUR GOES THAT AT THE QUEEN'S FENCING TOURNEY ...
LADY FRANCIS, THE YOUNGER SISTER OF THE FORMER EARL PHANTOMHIVE, IS A STRICT DISCIPLINARIAN, AND DETESTS THE FORCES OF HABIT AND DESIRE. SHE VALUES STRENGTH AND PURITY.

DEGENERATE...
DOKI (BADUMP)
YOU ARE TO MARRY MY DAUGHTER
I DROP IN ON YOU, AND YOU'RE STILL A LAYABOUT. NOT TO MENTION YOUR BUTLER LOOKS EVER THE DEGENERATE!
THOUGH NOW MARRIED, SHE STILL TRAINS DAILY...
...AND HAS MAINTAINED HER YOUTHFUL STRENGTH AND BEAUTY SHE IS QUITE THE ~~OUTRAGEOUS~~ NOBLEWOMAN.
!!
WE'LL START WITH THE MANOR!
A DISHEVELED HOME REFLECTS A DISTRACTED MIND!!
NOTHING WILL ESCAPE MY NOTICE, IS THAT CLEAR!!?
DOKIIII
ON THIS DAY OF DAYS, YOUR REFORMATION BEGINS!
GACHA (CHAK)
I WILL FIRST SHOW YOU THE INNER COURTYARD.
THIS YEAR, THE WINTER ROSES WE ORDERED FROM GERMANY ARE QUITE LOVEL—
Shh—
Leave it to me. I made certain everything was perfect yesterday.
THEN I SHALL GUIDE YOU.
SU (SWF)
H—
Hey...!

HM-HMMM
CHOKI (SNIP)
CHOKI
LA LAAA—
DUM DUMMMM—
THERE'RE LOTS OF FLOWERS. THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL!
NIKKORI (BEAM)
My mistake.
PATAMU (SHUT)
I WANTED TO SHOW YOU THE LIVING ROOM FIRST.
WHY? NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, WE CAN BEGIN WITH THE INNER COURT-YARD—
THE LIVING ROOM, I INSIST.
SOMETHING WAS WRONG...
BERA (BLAB)
I MADE A SIMPLE MISTAKE, REALLY!!
BERA
THE "PARTY DRESS" CHRISTMAS ROSE AND THE WINTER ROSES WE ORDERED FROM GERMANY ARE AT THEIR BEST NOW, BUT WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO SEE THEM AROUND NOON WHEN THEY ALL BLOOM, SO PLEASE COME TO THE LIVING ROOM... WE WILL BE ABLE TO SHOW YOU THE BEAUTIFUL INNER COURT-

AAAAAH!
GAGHA (CRUNCH)
WE ORDERED A MOST HANDSOMELY PATTERNED WALLPAPER FROM FRANCE—
THE LIVING ROOM WAS JUST REVAMPED THE OTHER DAY
NIKKORI (BEAM)
My mistake.
PATAMU (SHUT)
BERA
YOU LADIES MUST BE EXHAUSTED FROM RIDING IN A CRAMPED CARRIAGE FOR THOSE LONG HOURS. I APOLOGISE FOR NOT REALISING SOONER. I CANNOT BELIEVE MY AUDACITY... THERE IS SPACE FOR YOU TO RELAX IN THE CONSERVATORY, SO PLEASE ENJOY TEA WHILE SNACKING ON SOMETHING LIGHT...
BERA
RIGHT THIS WAY!!
TEA, I INSIST.
WHY? WE CAME TO LOOK AT THE LIVING ROOM.
WHY DO YOU NOT TAKE TEA IN THE CONSER-VATORY?
PARA
PARA (SWEAT)

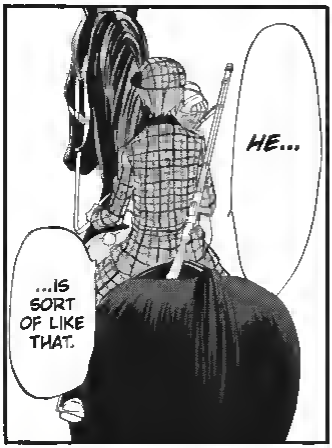
YET ANOTHER MISTAKE, WAS IT?
.....
UWAAH!
DOKAAAN CKABOOOM
WE JUST HAD THE MOST EXQUISITE ORANGES DELIVERED FROM SPAIN, SO PERHAPS A SHALIMAR TEA FROM DIMBULA—
I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS ONE SUCH AS I—
BUKABUKAAAA COEEP BOWW
YOU JUST CANNOT MAKE UP YOUR MIND, CAN YOU !!?
SFX. HARA (NERVOUS) HARA


I HAD FORGOTTEN THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE I WANTED THE MARCHIONESS TO SEE.
?
THOUGH IT IS NO PLACE TO BE GUIDING A LADY...
...LET US VISIT THE STABLES.

HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS, MARCHIONESS?
WE SENT FOR A HORSE WITH A MAGNIFICENT BLUISH-BLACK COAT TO SERVE AS OUR MASTER'S STEED...
...AND WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY YOU MIGHT TAKE A LOOK AT IT, MARCHIONESS.
OHH...
A FINE HORSE, INDEED. THE HIP IS STURDY, AND IT LOOKS WELL.
BURURU (WHICKER)
I HAVE IT!
CIEL.
!?
BURURU
WHAT SAY WE DO A LITTLE HUNTING TOGETHER?
WITH YOU, AUNT FRANCIS?

VERY WELL.
SEBASTIAN PREPARE FOR THE HUNT.
GRR
...IS "HUNTING" TOO DEMANDING FOR EARL PHANTOMHIVE, WHO POSSESSES A CONSTITUTION MORE COMMON TO THE FAIRER SEX?
IT WILL BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO SEE HOW GOOD A MAN MY DAUGHTER'S FIANCÉ IS.
OR...
THE GAME IS AFOOT, CIEL!

YES, SIR.
SEBAS-TIAN.
KUN (SNIFF)
..YOUNG MASTER.
THIS WAY.
KUN


HE...
...IS SORT OF LIKE THAT.

DOES YOUR BUTLER DOUBLE AS A HOUND?

THE RULES ARE AS FOLLOWS: MAINTAIN YOUR TERRITORY, TWENTY-FIVE METRES ON EITHER SIDE...
...AND AVOID SHOOTING AT BIRDS FLYING LOWER THAN THE PRESCRIBED ALTITUDE... ARE WE AGREED?
YES.
THEN WE SHALL BEGIN HERE.
SEE YOU, CIEL!
BURURU (WHICKER)
PACHIN (SNAP)
THE GAME IS NOW UNDER-WAY.
THE TIME LIMIT SHALL BE THREE HOURS.
EHHHHHHH!?
BUT WE FINALLY GET TO SPEND TIME TO-GETHER!
I CAN'T HURT OTHERWISE
LIZZIE, GET OFF HERE.
PO (CLOP)
PO
PO
PAKAN (CRACK)
PIKU (PEAK)

1 - NIL.
!

AS EXPECTED OF THE MARCHIONESS... SHE HAS ALREADY SHOT A BIRD.
IT SEEMS SHE WILL BE A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT, EVEN FOR YOU, YOUNG MASTER, HM?
GRR!

KYAAH!?
DOO (BANG)

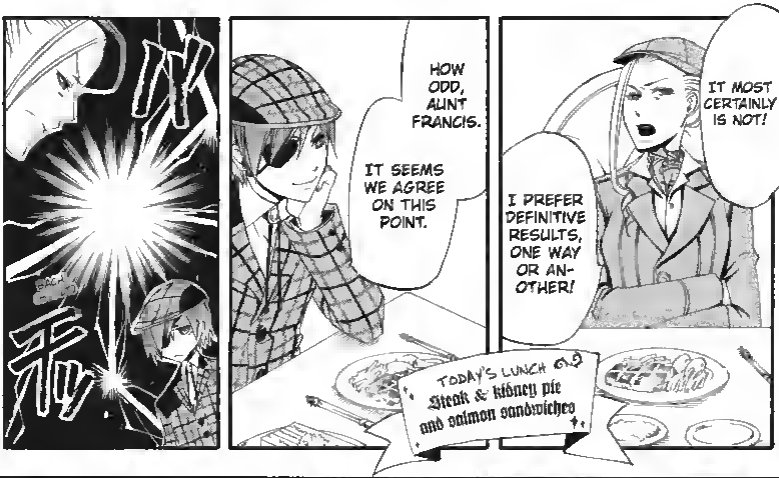
LIZZIE, IT'S DANGEROUS HERE SO STAY WITH SEBASTIAN.
ALL RIGHT?

BASAGA (FLAP)
TOO BAD FOR AUNT FRAN-CIS...
...BUT I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT LOSING ANY KIND OF GAME.

DO (CLOP)
DO
DO
DO
—I'M GLAD.
CIEL SEEMS TO BE FEELING A LITTLE BETTER.
AUNT AN LOVED CIEL BEST, SO...
I DON'T WANT CIEL TO SUFFER ANYMORE.
I ALWAYS TRY TO CHEER HIM UP IN MY OWN WAY, BUT...
...IT NEVER SEEMS TO WORK OUT.
...I WAS WORRIED.
I ALWAYS OVERDO THINGS AND MAKE HIM ANGRY.
HUH...

I AM CERTAIN MY MASTER SENSES...
...YOUR KIND CONSIDERATION AS WELL, MY LADY.
PAAAN
PAAAAN (SNAP)
OH MEH HEH!
THANK YOU.
YOU'RE SWEET, SEBASTIAN.
5 - 4.
IT IS A CLOSE CONTEST.
LET US CHEER THEM BOTH ON.
PAOAN (SNAP)
THE MARCHIONESS SHOT TEN PHEASANTS, A BRACE OF FOXES, AND THREE RABBITS FOR A TOTAL OF FIFTEEN POINTS.
YOUNG MASTER SHOT ELEVEN PHEASANTS, THREE FOXES, AND ONE RABBIT FOR A TOTAL OF FIFTEEN POINTS...

IS THAT ACCEPT-ABLE?
THE RESULT IS A DRAW.


HOW ODD, AUNT FRANCIS.
IT SEEMS WE AGREE ON THIS POINT.
I PREFER DEFINITIVE RESULTS, ONE WAY OR AN-OTHER!
IT MOST CERTAINLY IS NOT!
TODAY'S LUNCH
Steak & kidney pie and salmon sandwiches

...THE TIE WILL BE BROKEN WITH ANOTHER ROUND THIS AFTERNOON... AND NOW, IF I MAY...
THEN...

バチ
BACHI (ZIT)
チッ
NO COM-PLAINTS HERE.
FINE!!
SIGH (UNFAZED)
AH...
BUT I DARESAY WE'VE OVER-HUNTED HERE. WE'LL HAVE TO FIND A NEW LOCATION FOR THE AFTER-NOON.
NOW THAT THE RULES HAVE BEEN DECIDED
LET'S EAT!
BIG GAME STILL LURKS ON THESE GROUNDS.
NOT TO WORRY, MARCHIO-NESS.
FU (LOOM)
THIS SMELLS DIV'IIIINE...

EH?
GASA (RUSTLE)
LIZ —!
EEE —!

KYAAAH!
LIZZIE!!!
DAAN (BANG)

ZUUN (COLLAPSE)
ウ…ン
GURA (SWAY)
ゆら
PHEW.
AUNT FRANCIS ...!

IT LOOKS LIKE I'VE LOST THIS GAME...

...AUNT FRANCIS.

16 TO 15.

AND...
...I AM IN YOUR DEBT.
!!
I WOULD EXPECT NOTHING LESS FROM THE MAN WHO IS TO BECOME MY SON...
...LORD CIEL PHANTOMHIVE.
NOW THE GAME IS OVER.
LET'S HEAD BACK.
カポ (CLOP)
カポ (CLIP)
OVER HERE...
...BUTLER.
.....
HEY.

YOU FORGOT THIS.
YOU FORGOT IT IN THE BEAR'S HEAD.
INDEED.
...OH?
HOW CARELESS OF ME TO FORGET A PIECE OF PRECIOUS SILVER-WARE...
WITH MY DAUGHTER IN DANGER, I HAD TROUBLE AIMING PROPERLY. I MUST BE GETTING OLD.
MY BULLETS MISSED.
IT WAS YOU WHO STRUCK IT DOWN, RIGHT?

THE YOUNG MASTER HAS AN INORDINATE TALENT FOR GAMES.
CONSE-QUENTLY, HE SEEMS TO OVER-CONFI-DENTLY BELIEVE THAT HE "CANNOT LOSE."
BUT A BUTLER'S DUTY IS TO SAVE FACE ON HIS MASTER'S BEHALF.
SO WHY DID YOU LET ME WIN?
OTHERWISE, HE WILL EVENTUALLY TRIP UP...
...AS THE PLACE FOR WHICH YOUNG MASTER AIMS IS NOT AN EASY ONE TO REACH.
BUT AT TIMES, IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR HIM...
...TO CARRY HIMSELF WITH HUMILITY WHILE STRIVING FOR HIS GOAL..
?
PERHAPS IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO SAY THIS, BUT...

...I WOULD LIKE YOU TO BE AN EXEMPLAR FOR MY MASTER, MARCHIONESS.
HMPH!
SO...IN OTHER WORDS, YOU USED ME.
HA HA.
I DID NO SUCH THING...
MY MASTER IS NOW BUT A "CHILD"...
...YET HE IS ALSO THE "HEAD OF THE FAMILY."
AN "ADULT" WHO WILL BE FIRM WITH HIM...
...IS JUST WHAT THE YOUNG MASTER NEEDS.
SO IF DONE FOR THE SAKE OF HIS MASTER, A BUTLER'S DUTY INCLUDES ADMONISHING SAID MASTER BY LETTING HIM GET BURNED AS NECESSARY ...?
DON'T SAY SUCH PROPER THINGS WITH THAT LECHEROUS FACE OF YOURS.
SO I REALLY SEEM THAT WAY TO YOU?

AS I AM...
...MERELY A BUTLER...
...I ONLY DID WHAT I THOUGHT BEST FOR MY MASTER.
HMPH.
YOU'RE A TRICKY FELLOW.

AH!
NOM! NOM!
NOM!
GACHA (CHAK)
AS THE HUNT WAS A SUCCESS...
...I SHALL DO MY BEST TO—
HEH!
WH
BORO (IN TATTERS)
WHAT IS WITH YOU LOT ...!?
WELCOME BAAAACK!!
!?
HUUH?
WE MADE THIS TOGETHER!!
LOOK, LOOK!
SHUWA
SHUWAA (SPARKLE)

SFX: GO (STEAM) GO GO GO GO GO

HAPPY THIRTEENTH BIRTHDAY...
...CIEL.
AND EVERY-ONE...
...I HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TAKING CARE OF BOTH MY DAUGHTER AND MY SON.
Thank you...
...so much.

SEBAS-TIAN, YOU HAVE MY GRATITUDE FOR ATTENDING TO US TODAY.
YES, MY LADY.
THERE'S JUST ONE THING I THOUGHT I OUGHT TO MENTION.
ドキッ
!?
TAKE GOOD CARE OF THE SHAT-TERED CHINA ...
...THE RUINED GARDEN ...
...AND THE BURNT KITCHEN.
SO YOU KNEW ALL ALONG?
YES, MY LADY.
HAPPY BIRTHDAAAAY!♫
YAY!
FREE BOOZE!! FREE BOOZE!!
IT'S A PARTYYY TODAAAY !!
ALAS...

...I SUPPOSE WE SHALL NOT BE NEEDING THIS.
Happy Birthday
HUMAN CREATURES REALLY ARE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND.
SURU (SLIP)
GOOD-NESS...
...DELI-CIOUS...
NOW REALLY.
TSUPU (DIP)
TO THINK THEY CONSIDER SOME-THING LIKE THIS...

AH!
YOUNG MASTER! YOUNG MASTER !!
IT'S SNOWING!
—IT'S COLD.
AGNI, WHAT IS THIS?
YES.
PRETTY, ISN'T IT —?

SNOW...
...MY PRINCE.
IT IS KNOWN AS "SNOW" AND FALLS IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING THE WINTER...
GREAT BRITAIN, EH...? IT IS RATHER BEAUTIFUL.
I WANT TO TAKE IT BACK AND SHOW IT TO MOTHER.
To be continued in Black Butler 4

黒執事
Black Butler

Downstairs

Wakana Haduki

Akiyo Satorigi

Yana's Mother

SuKe

KiYo

MiNe

*

Takeshi Kuma

*

Yana Toboso

SpecialThanks

for You!

Translation Notes

Page 4

Lycoris

Most likely a reference to *lycoris radiata*, the red spider lily. Due to the flower's unique appearance and characteristics, many legends exist around it. The highly poisonous flowers have been known to be planted around rice fields to discourage animals from eating the yield. For similar reasons, the flowers were planted in cemeteries to discourage predators in olden days. Despite its bright scarlet colour, the flower is commonly associated with darker concepts like longing, separation, death, and the afterlife.

Page 126

Mary Jane Kelly

Though a point of contention, Mary Jane Kelly is regarded as Jack the Ripper's final victim. Her background is largely unknown, but it is said she hailed from Ireland.

Page 162

"Party Dress" Christmas roses

Christmas roses are also known as hellebore, an extremely poisonous flowering plant that blooms in the winter and early spring. The "Party Dress" is a variety of Christmas rose.

Page 164

Dimbula

A tea-growing region of Ceylon, now modern-day Sri Lanka, known for its full-bodied, aromatic teas.

Inside Back Cover

Bathing scene at 8:20

The popular Japanese period drama *Mito Koumon* always features a female ninja bathing. The show airs at 8 p.m.

Finny's lantern

In the Edo era, officials held lanterns painted with the word *goyou* ("official business") when they went to make an arrest, similar to the one Finny is holding here.

Oniwaban

A post set up by the eighth shogun, Yoshimune Tokugawa. Specialising in spying and intelligence, an Oniwaban ninja received orders directly from the shogun himself.

Nin

The *nin* on Sebastian's head band is from the first character used to write "ninja" and can mean "conceal" or "spy."

Yana Toboso

Author's note

People say that a ruby shines red no matter what colour light you shine on it.

It absorbs any kind of light, changes it to red, and sparkles.

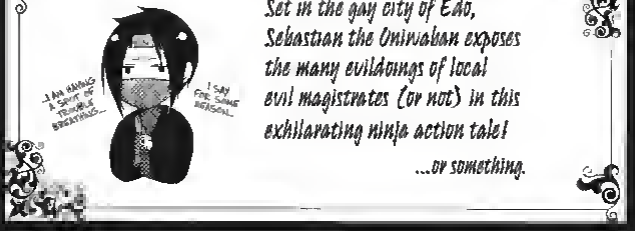
A "red" that asserts itself, no matter how its environment changes. A colour that is different from black, completely dissimilar.

I'll be happy if you can feel that intense "red" in the black-and-white world of manga.

And so . . . ***Black Butler*** Volume 3.

Black Ninja
III

THE SHADOW DANCES. THE SHADOW SLICES!
AND THERE'S A BATHING SCENE AT 20!


I AM HAVING A SERIOUS TROUBLE BREATHING...
I SAY FOR SOME REASON...
Set in the gay city of Edo, Sebastian the Omivaban exposes the many evildoings of local evil magistrates (or not) in this exhilarating ninja action tale!
...or something.

BLACK BUTLER ❸

Yana Toboso

Translation: Tomo Kimura • Lettering: Tania Biswas

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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